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Aggressive Driving Responsible for 55% of Car Crashes in Idaho
Stats show adults, as well as teens, are to blame

BOISE, Idaho—(June 12, 2006)—If you tailgate, change lanes quickly, run yellow lights, speed or ignore traffic signs and signals, you are an aggressive driver. If you are guilty of performing any or all of these aggressive driving behaviors, you needlessly risk your life and the lives of other vehicle occupants on Idaho's roadways. That is because aggressive driving injures and kills more people each year than any other driving behavior. For this reason, Idaho is "Getting Aggressive with Aggressive Drivers." That's the message the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and law enforcement agencies throughout Idaho are giving drivers this summer as they beef up patrols from June 5 to August 14 to identify aggressive drivers. If you are caught, you will be ticketed and fined, and for repeated aggressive driving offenses, you could lose your license.

"I see crashes every day that injury or kill people as a result of aggressive driving. Think about living the rest of your life with the thought of having maimed or killed someone and then think again if it is worth speeding or running lights," said Boise Police Officer Kyle Wills.

Last year, 55 percent of car crashes in Idaho were the result of aggressive driving, according to ITD. While teens are four times more likely to be involved in an aggressive driving crash than all other age groups, almost every adult is also guilty of driving aggressively.

The challenge that ITD's Office of Traffic and Highway Safety and law enforcement agencies face in working to reduce aggressive driving is that most drivers recognize aggressive driving behaviors in others, while failing to see their own aggressive behaviors.

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“If you are an aggressive driver, eventually you’re going to seriously injure or kill yourself or someone else, neither of which is worth getting to your destination five minutes earlier,” said Wills.

Aggressive Driving in Idaho

Aggressive driving is against the law. Fines for aggressive driving in Idaho range from \$62.00 to \$117.00. Traffic violations that result in points on your driver’s record could result in license revocation and higher insurance premiums. The following are the top five aggressive driving behaviors in Idaho, according to ITD:

- Speeding
- Following too close
- Failing to yield
- Disregarding traffic signs and signals
- Driving too fast for conditions

For more information about aggressive driving behaviors and how to curb them, please call ITD’s Office of Traffic and Highway Safety at 208 334-8100 or go to <http://itd.idaho.gov/ohs>.

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